

ELIJAH FARR.

FEBRUARY 8, 1904.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. SULLOWAY, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany S. 2517.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 2517) granting an increase of pension to Elijah Farr, have examined the same and adopt the Senate report thereon and recommend that the bill do pass.

[Senate report No. 236, Fifty-eighth Congress, second session.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 2517) granting an increase of pension to Elijah Farr have examined the same and report:

This bill proposes to increase from \$12 to \$20 per month the pension of Elijah Farr, late of Company D, First Regiment, and Company H, Twelfth Regiment, Vermont Volunteer Infantry.

Soldier enlisted May 2, 1861, in Company D, First Vermont Infantry, and was honorably discharged August 15, 1861. He reenlisted August 15, 1862, in Company H, Twelfth Vermont Infantry, and was honorably discharged July 14, 1863. He is now receiving the maximum pension of \$12 per month under the act of June 27, 1890, for varicose veins and ulcers of both legs, and asthma, his original allowance under the general law having been \$4 per month from December 9, 1882, and \$8 per month from December 2, 1885, for varicose veins of left leg with resulting ulceration and lameness of left side. -

Soldier filed a claim for increase under general law June 4, 1902, alleging pensioned disability and resulting ulceration of right leg, which was rejected April 18, 1903, on the ground of no increase in disability from varicose veins of left leg, with resulting ulceration and lameness of left side, and ulceration of right leg not accepted as a result. He made claim for additional disabilities, injury to left eye, and chills and fever, October 11, 1892, which was rejected January 25, 1900, because he had no hospital record and could furnish no satisfactory proof of service origin.

It is shown by the evidence on file that the soldier's greatest disability is varicose veins and ulceration of right leg. This, he claims, is the result of the varicose veins and ulceration of left leg, for which pensioned under the general law. The medical referee of the Bureau declines, however, to recognize a pathological connection between the condition of the right leg and the disability of the left leg. Doubtless this is strictly correct, but it seems probable that there is a consequential relation, at least, between the two, resulting from the added use and burden imposed on the

right leg by the disability of the left leg. The left leg was favored because of its crippled condition, and the right leg, no doubt, became varicosed and diseased in consequence.

Claimant is 65 years of age, and broken down from his severe disabilities. A medical examination, dated May 8, 1901, rated him \$17 for varicose ulcers of both legs and \$7 for general debility, the combined disabilities being equal to the loss of a hand or foot for purposes of manual labor, rated at \$24. His last medical examination, dated September 3, 1902, rated him \$17 for varicose veins and ulcers of both legs, the examining board stating that he could not bear weight on right leg, and had to use a crutch in walking.

Your committee is reliably informed that claimant can do no manual labor, and is very poor. His diseased right leg requires considerable attention and frequent dressing, which is done by his wife, upon whom he also depends largely for support. As it seems probable that his totally disabled condition results from disease incurred in service, your committee are of opinion that he should have a reasonable increase of his pension.

The bill is reported back favorably with a recommendation that it pass.

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